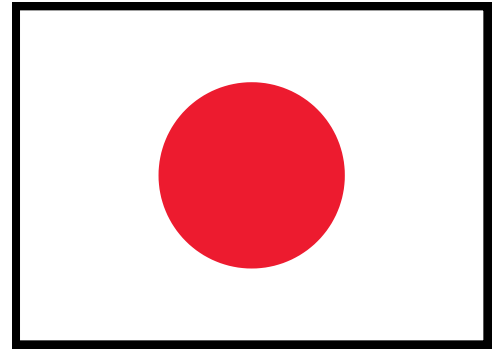


POSITION PAPER



Delegate: Ananya Saini

Committee: United Nations General Assembly(UNGA)

Topic: Global Arms Trade & Usage of Private Military Companies (Special
Emphasis on USA Second Amendment)

Country: japan

Dear delegates,

The arms trade refers to the international exchange of weapons, defense equipment, and related technology. While it can contribute to national defense and peacekeeping, it also poses serious risks such as fueling conflicts, enabling terrorism, and causing human rights violations. Japan, a leading economic and technological power in East Asia, has a unique stance on arms exports rooted in its pacifist constitution (Article 9) which renounces war.

Traditionally, Japan maintained strict self-imposed restrictions on weapons exports, prioritizing peace, stability, and the prevention of conflict. However, in recent years, Japan has gradually revised its defense and security policies in response to regional threats, while continuing to emphasize responsible and transparent arms control.

Japan has historically maintained one of the strictest arms export control regimes in the world through its “Three Principles on Arms Exports,” which prohibited exports to conflict zones, embargoed states, and countries violating international law. Despite these restrictions, Japan has recognized growing regional security concerns, particularly due to rising tensions in the Indo-Pacific. Consequently, Japan has eased some restrictions to allow defense exports to allies such as the United States, the Philippines, and Australia, mainly for peacekeeping and collective defense purposes. However, challenges remain: balancing constitutional pacifism with national security, preventing the misuse of exported equipment, and ensuring that economic motives do not overshadow human rights considerations.

Japan has reformed its arms export policy under the 2014 “Three Principles on Transfer of Defense Equipment and Technology,” which replaced the older ban with stricter guidelines based on transparency, international law compliance, and regional security stability. It has also increased participation in multilateral frameworks such as the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), which Japan signed on 3 June 2013 and ratified on 9 May 2014, demonstrating its commitment to ethical trade practices. Japan’s model highlights the importance of rights-based licensing, strict end-use monitoring, and multilateral cooperation to prevent misuse. Other countries should adopt similar approaches — balancing security needs with ethical responsibility, strengthening regional partnerships, and ensuring that arms exports do not contribute to human suffering.

JAPAN remains committed to working collaboratively within the United Nations to strengthen multilateral arms control mechanisms, uphold the principles of the ATT, and contribute to a safer, more peaceful world.